

Storm Update 11/13/12

Four-wheel drive vehicles are now traveling along N.C. 12 on Pea Island during daylight hours only after N.C. Department of Transportation crews reopened the emergency access route.

The route south of Oregon Inlet was temporarily closed over the weekend following an accident that killed an NCDOT employee. NCDOT is working with local officials to develop options for expanding travel times.

NCDOT is working to clean up and make repairs after portions of the Outer Banks and Highway 12 were severely damaged by Hurricane Sandy on Oct. 28. The area was hit again by a Nor'easter a week later, causing additional damage.

[The route](#) now open along on Highway 12 provides a single lane of travel in each direction in all locations, except at the temporary bridge and the Bonner Bridge, where it narrows to a single lane for vehicles traveling in both directions.

Drivers of four-wheel drive vehicles using the reopened portion of the highway should expect a rough ride, which will include traveling over sand, damaged pavement and some water.

In Manns Harbor, the NCDOT Ferry division will continue to offer extra departures in each direction on the Swan Quarter-Ocracoke route on the upcoming weekend of Nov. 16- 18. Extra weekend runs will continue until NC 12 reopens north of Rodanthe and the emergency ferry route from Stumpy Point to Rodanthe is deactivated.

The emergency ferry route is running on an amended schedule because of a mechanical issue with one of the ferries. Motor Vessel Hatteras is currently at the NCDOT Ferry Division shipyard and repairs are underway.

Ferry information is online at www.ncferry.org or by phone at 1-800-293-3779.

The State Highway Patrol is investigating the incident Sunday morning that killed Michael Brad Stevenson, 37, a dump truck operator working work site just south of the Oregon Inlet. A resident of Hertford, N.C., Stevenson was employed by NCDOT for 12 years.